

NOTICE



ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

ORAL RABIES VACCINATION AREA

The Wildlife Services (WS) program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working with the New York State Department of Health & the Erie County Department of Health to protect people and pets from the threat of rabies in your area.

WS is distributing oral rabies vaccine (ORV) baits to vaccinate raccoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes to help stop the spread of rabies in the local wildlife population.

ORV baits, about the size of a matchbox, are coated with flavoring or a sweet vanilla wax.

ORV baits will be distributed by fixed-wing airplanes, helicopters, and vehicles.



ORV BAITS DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN:

AUGUST 17—SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

WHAT IF I FIND RABIES BAITS?

To safely move ORV baits safely, you should:

- **Wear gloves** or use a paper towel or plastic bag when picking up the baits.
- Toss intact baits into a **wooded area** or other raccoon habitat.
- **Bag and dispose** of any damaged baits in the trash.
- Take precautions by practicing **proper hygiene** – wash with soap and water any skin or wounds that may have come into contact with ORV baits, especially if bait was damaged.

WHAT IF MY PET EATS THE BAIT?

- **Don't Panic!** A few baits are not harmful, though eating a large number may cause an upset stomach.
- Do not risk getting bitten or being exposed to the vaccine by taking bait away from your pet.
- Check the area for more bait and relocate any remaining bait to a wooded area.
- If your pet eats the bait, avoid your pet's saliva for 24 hours, and wash skin or wounds that may have been licked.

QUESTIONS ABOUT ORV OR BAITS?

NY State Department of Health Rabies Information Line 888- 574-6656
Erie County Department of Health 716-961-6800